

Meeting of the Committee for Chess for the Disabled

Tromso, August 08, 2014

Present:

Adviser: Thomas Luther (GER)

Observers: Rafael Pinchas, (ICCD), Nikos Kalesis (IBCA), Dr. Dirk Jordan, (GER), Ludwig Beutelhoff (GER), Christine Beutelhoff (GER), Ruth Haring (USA), Roberto Ricca (ITA), Svetlana Gerasimova (RUS), David Jarrett (ENG), Amarnath Inaganti (IND), Jean Hoffmann (USA), Lyndon Bouah (RSA), Cristobal Vega Adorno (PUR), Marinello Beatriz (USA), Kevin O'Connell (IRL), Geber Diaz (VEN), Lakhdar Mazouz (ALG), Sophia Rohde (USA), Stewart Reuben (ENG), Robert Katende (UGA), S. Constance Geurt Gijssen (NED), Jan Berglund (PLW), Ashot Vardapetyan (ARM), Graham Boxall (JCI), Robinah Namwanje (UGA), Kevin Bonham (AUS)

Minutes of Meeting

1. Mr. Thomas Luther opened Chess for Disabled session at 9 AM.
2. Mr. Roberto Ricca presented the TRIIS (Team Ranking in Individual Swiss).
3. Mr. Dirk Jordan presented the report of 'the World Chess Championship for Disabled 2013', and presented the confirmed dates of the 'World Championship for Disabled 2015', 19th October to 25th 2015 in the same venue as last time. The same regulations were agreed to be applied for the second world championship as well. More information is available on the website. (www.wcgd.org)
4. The floor made several recommendations towards increasing the number of participation,
 - (a) Each continent could offer to send players for the tournament.
 - (b) Common funding pool for players to support themselves during in the tournament.
5. The floor had asked the question, why the world chess championship event is organised every 2 years instead of every year like the World championships. The organisers presented the difficulty for preparation, fund raising and organising the events.
6. Mr. Thomas Luther presented the letters from IPC, inviting international organisations to present the recommendations for new regulations for 2017.
7. Mr. Thomas Luther mentioned about assistance of Mr. Stuart Reuben for drafting documentation on general guidelines for Categorisation of players.
8. Ms. Beatriz Marinello mentioned about FIDE affiliating with International bodies are a very important development, such as working in close harmony with the IPC or United Nations Disability departments. Ms Beatriz Marinello also mentioned that she could initiate such conversation with UNESCO on behalf of FIDE to bring the dialogue on inclusive participation within chess.
9. Mr. Malola presented the FIDE chess for disabled project, helping a promotion in Paediatric Day Expo, May 29, 2014 for Disabled Children, Newcastle, UK. A few National charities wanted to introduce FIDE work to their members. Few businesses expressed interest to participate in future events. The organisers of Expo were happy to colocate future chess events.
A report on the participation is available.
10. Mr. Malola also presented the interaction with several Universities in the UK, including the Annual Seminar on 'Researching on children with disability', in Queen's University Belfast.

11.Distribution of 15 chess sets for Blind players. The suggestion of the floor was to distribute the chess sets to the African, the Asian and the South American Continent (5 sets each).

12.Mr. Thomas Luther reported about the pilot FIDE Trainer seminar in Berlin. Similar request from the floor to organise this for Arbiters and International Organiser seminars.

13.Mr. Kevin O' Connell from Chess in schools commission expressed strong desire to cooperate with the Chess for disability projects.

14.Ms. Ruth Harting reported on the US model of engaging with Disability and how they are implementing the chess for blind.

15.Mr. Thomas Luther requested the floor to vote on the request of setting up a commission for 'Chess for Disabled'. The floor voted as 100% in favour.

16.Mr. Cristobal Vega reported their National Women Champion, who is visually handicapped, playing in the 'Top board' in the Olympiad. The floor congratulated the Puerto Rico's federation for leading an example for inclusion and integrating players with disability into mainstream chess.

17.Mr. Geurt Gijssen reported the newly implemented regulations for disabled players were not just guidelines but they are clear requirements for integration of disabled players. Mr. Ashot Vardapetyan seconded it.

18.Ms. Ruth Harting presented the USCF's video on the Scoup of Blind Chess.

19.Mr. Thomas Luther mentioned that FIDE supported the Documentary 'Algorithm', featuring the life of blind chess players.

20.The meeting was declared closed at 11: 40AM

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Agenda

1. World Chess Championship for Disabled 2015

1.1 a ranking system for teams was suggested by Roberto Ricca, Sec SPP.

1.2 Mr Jordan, Chief Organiser reports

2. new regulations

2.1. a document was prepared by RTR

2.2. several documents from the IPC (Intern. Paralympic Committee)

3. affiliation to other organisations

several international organisations have projects for disabled people. Mr Malola Prasath to report

4. education

4.1. a trainer seminar with focus on disabled players took place in 2014, Uwe Boensch, Con TRG was lecturing

4.2 a fide arbiters seminar could be held in 2015

5. request to set up a commission

6. possibility of stipends/help for disabled players, letter from Mr Cristobal Vega (Pres. Puerto Rico CF)

7. needed electronic devices of disabled players, remarks towards antichecking regulations

8. any other topic